



Inside Freeport Village

JANUARY 2012

Village Goes Green & Saves Green

The Incorporated Village of Freeport took another giant step toward its commitment to going green with the recent installation of a state-of-the-art 50 kilowatt solar electric system on the roof of fire headquarters, reducing the structure's electric requirement by 20 percent and saving the village more than \$7,000 annually.



taking to help reduce our carbon footprint to keep Freeport clean and green."

The solar panel project was fully funded by a \$355,000 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant, which is administered by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. The ARRA was created in 2009 to encourage green energy initiatives and

"This location is fully operational 24 hours a day and is vital to the protection of our community, so it made sense that it became the first municipal building to be equipped with solar panels," pointed out Freeport Village Mayor Andrew Harwick.

numerous other stimulus programs.

The village recently received grant money to replace 350 street lights with energy-efficient alternatives. Additionally, the municipality's electric department is now equipped with two electric meter-reader vehicles, three hybrid cars and a hybrid bucket truck.

Economic Development Alive & Well

Despite tough economic conditions felt by municipalities throughout Long Island and the U.S., Freeport Village has weathered the storm better than most. Since the onset of the Hardwick administration in April 2009, more than 40 businesses have opened or expanded in Freeport – bringing more than 100 new jobs, many of them for village residents.

Compare Foods has recently been renovated and Metro PCS and International House of Pancakes are among the new businesses now calling Freeport home. Even more significantly, a number

of major projects are moving forward, some of which will revitalize long-standing eyesores.

Additionally, brand new development will further complement the village's existing retail base, while generating more tax revenues and hundreds of jobs. Such projects include a Target department store on the northwest corner of Sunrise Highway, close to the Meadowbrook Parkway; a Hess-mart gas station and convenience store at Sunrise Highway and South Ocean Avenue; and a Biggest Banana supermarket at Atlantic and Westend Avenues.

The Freeport Shopping Center at West Sunrise Highway and South Long Beach Avenue is also undergoing a major transformation, with Subway, Pay-O-Matic and Metro PCS recently opening their doors. According to the developer, plans are to bring in a supermarket or other similar business.

"Economic development will continue to be one of my top priorities so our community can remain vibrant," said Mayor Andrew Hardwick. "Our hard work in bringing and expanding businesses is proving to be effective, even in this difficult economic climate."



Mayor's Corner



A Message from the Desk of Mayor Andrew Hardwick

I have always found the start of a new year to be a good time to briefly reflect on some of the more important events of the past 12 months, to help us prepare for what lies

ahead. For me, 2011 brought much to be thankful for as mayor of this great village. By enacting sound fiscal policies and significantly reducing our debt, we effectively ensured that Freeport's bond rating was confirmed by Moody's as A1 on two occasions. More police officers were hired to better protect our streets and homes, a series of road improvements and other infrastructure projects are under way and economic development is alive and well with new businesses opening and others expanding.

We even made inroads in going green with a new solar electric system at fire

headquarters and several hybrid cars and trucks now being utilized by our electric department.

Still, it's clear there is more to do and these tough economic conditions will continue to bring us difficult challenges. Fortunately, our village is in a better position than it has been in years, so we are more prepared to face whatever 2012 brings. I am confident our efforts will be successful.

Please accept my sincerest best wishes to you and your family for a happy, safe and productive New Year.



CDA Community Forums Take Root

A series of community forums, hosted by the Freeport Community Development Agency, is offering residents an opportunity to learn about economic development initiatives and other related issues within their neighborhood and surrounding area.

The first of these gatherings was held in June at the Zion Cathedral on Grand Avenue and featured an update on the North Main Street Corridor project. Freeport developer Greg Saunders also gave residents an overview of plans to build a shopping center on a parcel across from Meadowbrook Commons, which would be anchored by Target. According to Saunders, the project would create 300 jobs and add

approximately \$100,000 to the village tax rolls.

At a community forum held at Congregation B'nai Israel on North Bayview Avenue in September, residents learned about plans to revitalize the Freeport Shopping Center on Sunrise Highway, a process that has already started with the addition of I-Hop, Metro PCS and Pay-O-Matic. Residents also heard from a principal from American Transit Insurance, which purchased the former Pennysaver building at 5 Broadway and is opening a satellite office that is expected to create 50 to 65 jobs.

"These forums are a great way for our residents to stay abreast of the most current economic

related issues affecting our village and learn more about the work that is being performed to grow business and create much-needed jobs in our community," said Mayor Andrew Hardwick, who also serves as Chairman of the Freeport CDA.

The next in the series of community forums is being planned for March 2012 at a date and location to be determined. Once the details are finalized, an announcement will be made and the information posted on the village website at:

www.freeportny.gov.

Meet Your Freeport Village Officials

(Year indicates when each individual began his or her term of service.)



Andrew Hardwick (2009)
Mayor
(516) 377-2252



Steve Lieberman (1985)
Comptroller
(516) 377-2277



Ismaela Hernandez (2010)
Village Treasurer
(516) 377-2212



Pamela Walsh-Boening (2009)
Village Clerk
(516) 377-2300



Howard Colton (1997)
Village Attorney
(516) 377-2249



Valerie Montes (2000)
Deputy Village Treasurer
(516) 377-2212



Meshessna Little (2004)
Deputy Village Clerk
(516) 377-2300



J. Barrington Jackson (2009)
Deputy Village Attorney
(516) 377-2249



Norman G. Wells (2009)
Executive Director CDA
(516) 377-2203



Paul Nehrich (2010)
Village Assessor
(516) 377-2256



Richard Brown (1981)
Superintendent Building Dept.
(516) 377-2242



Annette Wright (1999)
Coordinator CDA
(516) 377-2223



James Smith (2009)
Village Auditor/Deputy Assessor
(516) 377-2256



Joseph Madigan (1990)
Asst. Superintendent Building Dept.
(516) 377-2242



Scott Richardson (2002)
Superintendent Dept. Public Works
(516) 377-2289



Anthony Fiore (2001)
Superintendent Electric Utilities
(516) 377-2262



Jerry Cardoso (1985)
Superintendent Water Dept.
(516) 377-2379



Benjamin Terzulli (2001)
Asst. Superintendent Dept. Public Works
(516) 377-2289



Al Livingston (1990)
Deputy Superintendent Electric Utilities
(516) 377-2220



Stafford Byers (2009)
Exec. Dir. Human Relations Commission
(516) 377-2267



Lamou Keita (2010)
Publicity Director
(516) 377-2246



Kim Weltner (2007)
Purchasing Agent
(516) 377-2192



Evette Sanchez (2000)
Court Clerk Bilingual
(516) 377-2329



Daihana Torres-Lopez (2009)
Research & Development Director
(516) 377-6884



Miguel Bermudez (1985)
Chief of Police
(516) 378-0700



Raymond Horton (1986)
Deputy Chief of Police
(516) 378-0700



Wayne Giglio (1977)
Freeport Police Detective Lieutenant
(516) 378-0700



Christopher Barrella (1990)
Freeport Police Lieutenant
(516) 378-0700



Paul Jurgens (1978)
Freeport Police Lieutenant
(516) 378-0700



Kevin Noll (1981)
Freeport Police Lieutenant
(516) 378-0700



Edward Thompson (1989)
Freeport Police Lieutenant
(516) 378-0700



Debbie Zagaja (1986)
Freeport Police Lieutenant
(516) 378-0700



Mark Stuparich (1992)
Fire Chief
(516) 377-2190



David Baer (1976)
1st Asst. Fire Chief
(516) 377-2190



Stanley Kistela (1970)
2nd Assistant Fire Chief
(516) 377-2190



William Walsh (1992)
3rd Assistant Fire Chief
(516) 377-2190



Raymond Maguire (1997)
Executive Director Fire Dept.
(516) 377-2190



Richard Holdener (1998)
Emergency Management Director
(516) 377-2188



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Incorporated Village of Freeport

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Freeport, NY 11520

Mayor

Andrew Hardwick

Board of Trustees

Robert T. Kennedy

Jorge A. Martinez

Carmen Piñeyro

William H. White Jr.

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FREEPORT, NY 11520

www.freeportny.gov



Participants of Freeport's monthly talent showcase pose with Mayor Andrew Hardwick after displaying their talent in music, dance and magic before a live audience at the Freeport Recreation Center. The talent showcase is open to Freeporters of all ages and is televised on Channels 18 and 44 for cable subscribers.

Launched in September 2011, the talent showcase has grown in popularity in both participation and attendance with more than 40 performers to date and standing-room-only crowds.

Admission to the talent show is free, and residents are invited to come out and support their fellow Freeporters. For more information or to register for one of the upcoming shows, please call (516) 377-2770. Applications can also be found online on the village's website at www.freeportny.gov.

Foreclosure Assistance Saving Homes

Following an announcement earlier this year that Freeport Village was removing its money from JPMorgan Chase to protest the bank's record of foreclosing on struggling families and other lending policies that trample on workers' rights, Mayor Andrew Hardwick took matters to another level by implementing a foreclosure assistance program for village residents who needed help. Word was spread by phone using the village's Community Notification System, flyers were distributed throughout the area and information was posted on the village's website, and other places, inviting residents facing foreclosure to call the mayor's office.

"Some of the stories I heard were horrifying, so I knew anything we could do to help was both necessary and critical," Mayor Hardwick said.

Banks, such as Bank of America, Citibank, Chase, Wachovia, Wells Fargo and others were called by the village to help negotiate on the residents' behalf. Thanks to those efforts, to date, 70 homeowners are no longer facing foreclosure and the threat of losing their homes.

"We're thrilled to know that our program is having a positive effect for so many of our residents," Mayor Hardwick said.

Anyone facing a foreclosure situation who would like assistance from Freeport Village is encouraged to call the mayor's office at (516) 377-2252.